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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): | Harald Schmidt et al. |) | |
| Application No. | 09/762,767 |) | |
| Filed: | June 1, 2001 |) | Group Art Unit: 1652 |
| For: | ISOLATED AND PURIFIED HUMAN SOLUBLE GUANYLYLCYCLASE $\alpha 1/\beta 1$ (hsGC $\alpha 1/\beta 1$) |) | |
| Examiner: | Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D. |) | Attorney Docket No. <u>VOS-101</u> |

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER RULE 111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The paper is in response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2003 on the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

A paper copy and computer readable form of a substitute Sequence Listing for this application and a statement verifying that the computer readable form and paper copy of the sequence listing are identical are enclosed herewith. Also submitted herewith is a petition for a one-month extension of time to reply to the Office Action and a check in the amount of \$110 to cover the fee for the extension of time.